



Division of Data, Accountability, and Research

DC Science Assessment Frequently Asked Questions by LEAs

Last Updated: May 25, 2015

Assessment Overview

Testing Window: May 18 – June 19, 2015

Tested Grades: 5th Grade, 8th Grade, and High School Biology (course-based)

Field Test Design: One Untimed Test Session per Grade, approximately one-hour duration

Test Administration Platform: Online Only, using TestNav8 (same platform as PARCC)

Support

Pearson DC Science Assessment Support

Call Toll Free: 1-866-688-9555

(7:00 am – 8:30 pm Eastern, Mon–Fri)

Email: dchelp@support.pearson.com

OSSE Assessment Hotline

Call: 240-270-2598

(8:00 am – 6:00 pm Eastern, Mon–Fri)

Email: OSSE.assessment@dc.gov

Quick Links

DC Science Website	http://osse.dc.gov/page/dc-science-assessment-assessment-next-generation-science-standards-ngss
DC Science Guidelines	http://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/publication/attachments/2014-15%20Science%20Assessment%20Guidelines_0.pdf
DC Science Manual	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qy6DWQaL2HIUQ9nybq46EsoswFo3eZtTkkULYIA-6BM/edit?pli=1
PA Next Webinar	https://youtu.be/W0l5Tmn9tYE
PA Next Module	http://osse.dc.gov/node/1055322
Accommodations Webinar	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5i5d88VvTZQ&feature=youtu.be
Accommodations Crosswalk	http://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/publication/attachments/DC%20Science%20Accommodations%20and%20Accessibility%20Features%20Crosswalk%205_11_2015.pdf
Student Test Login	http://dc.testnav.com

Frequently Asked Questions

General Administration

How do we set up devices for testing?

STEP 1: Review PARCC documentation on how to set-up devices at

<https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/TestNav+8+Online+Support>.

STEP 2: Contact Pearson DC Support for step-by-step guidance on how to set-up devices at 1-866-688-9555 or dchelp@support.pearson.com.

If you need additional assistance after exhausting these resources, then please contact the OSSE Assessment Hotline at 240-270-2598 or OSSE.assessment@dc.gov.

How do you load students in the Pearson Access Next system?

Pearson transferred registration information from PARCC EOY to DC Science.

What if my Biology students are not showing up as registered in Pearson Access Next?

Biology students were loaded from rosters submitted to OSSE in the fall. If you cannot locate students in the system, please contact the OSSE Assessment Hotline for assistance at 240-270-2598 or OSSE.assessment@dc.gov.

When Proctor Caching in Pearson Access Next for Science, I see "form - Shared Content." PARCC showed "ELA" or "Math." Should I see "Science?"

For DC Science, proctor caching will always show "Shared Content." This is normal. Just ensure that you see the Science Forms listed in the Proctor Caching website.

In Pearson Access Next, seal codes are appearing for the DC Science Assessment. Are they needed?

Pearson Access Next automatically generates seal codes but seal codes not necessary for the DC Science Assessment.

How many units are there per session?

There is one unit and one test session for every grade. The test is untimed and should take students approximately 45-60 min to complete.

Are headphones required for this assessment?

The DC Science Assessment contains video. This year's items the video does not have sound, but future administrations will likely contain video with sound. Headphones are not needed for the Spring 2015 administration.

Where can I locate test directions for this assessment?

Appendix A of the DC Science Assessment Manual includes optional text that can be read as test directions.

Frequently Asked Questions

Accessibility Features and Accommodations

Will schools need to resubmit Personal Needs Profiles (PNPs) for the DC Science assessment?

Pearson transferred PNP information from PARCC EOY to DC Science. However, accommodations and accessibility features available for the DC Science Assessment are different than those available for PARCC. Every school/LEA will need to review their PNPs alongside the DC Science/SEDS Crosswalk to determine changes that need to be made a child's PNP. For example, if a student received Text-to-Speech on PARCC, it is not available for Science. So that student's PNP would need to be updated to indicate Human Reader. More guidance on the PNP will be given at the DC Science Accommodations and Accessibility Features Webinar (see Quick Links).

How do I administer Read Aloud?

DC Science read aloud can be administered to groups of students as long as those students are all registered under a separate session in Pearson Access Next. When setting up a read aloud session, select “proctor read aloud” when you set up the test session. This ensures that all the students in the session will get the same form and that a proctor test ticket generated so the test administrator can read the text from a separate device. For more information, see slide 23 of the [PAN Training Module](#).

How do I record Human Scribe on the PNP? I do not see it listed?

Please select "Answers Recorded in Test Book." While this selection sounds like it would only be used for a paper-based assessment, for DC Science it is used for all Human Scribe accommodations.

Is Large Print available on this assessment?

There are no paper forms for DC Science. However, a test-taker can increase the size of the text on the screen and/or use the magnification tool. Students may also use a Human Reader.

Will all students need to use a calculator?

No. DC Science does not include items that require a calculator. However, if a student has a calculator accommodation, a calculator should be provided.